

# ANTI-CAP

MUSIC FOR OUR FUTURE



THERE  
IS NO  
JUSTICE

IN A  
RACIST  
SYSTEM

FEATURING:

JOSEPH TAWADROS • DEPECHE MODE • TUPAC

# A WORD ON PROTEST:

"You write a petition... You manage to get 3 million people to sign it... So, why didn't it work? Well, it's because your demand wasn't backed by anything. All you did with those 3 million signatures was ask [insert evildoer here] nicely to stop being evil. They said no, and because your words weren't backed by any action, they could be safely ignored.

Hell, most of the people on the petition didn't even bother boycotting [them]. And this is something in the West many of you still haven't figured out yet. When you protest or petition, that is supposed to be a warning.

Your march through the street is supposed to be a show of force and a declaration that there will be consequences to ignoring the protest. The protest and petition is you telling the corporation or government that this is your last chance to act before we all strike, riot or straight up storm the factories. The solidarity and promise of direct action.

That is your power. Because without that promise of consequences, your petition isn't even worth the paper it's printed on. If your peaceful march or strongly worded petition is the totality of your protest, then you will fail 100% of the time.

And this is also why those in power keep telling you to make your protest respectful and non-disruptive. Because if your protest doesn't disrupt anything, then your protest can be safely ignored. And any protest that can be ignored will be ignored.

But, if your protest comes with the promise that you will shut down every train and port in the country—when your protest comes with the promise that you will block the highways and walk out of every job—When your words are backed with the promise of action, then and only then will they listen to you."

- Triploi

# PROTESTING ISNT GONNA BE ENOUGH

## Why Performative Rage Won't Solve Our Problems

### Protests Expose the Problem, They Don't Fix the System

01

Protests are like an alarm siren. They draw attention. They signal urgency. They show collective anger and pain but an alarm doesn't put out the fire. Marching in the street doesn't automatically change laws, redistribute resources, or transform institutions.

02

### Protests Are Often Short-Term, Problems Are Long-Term

Most protests are a day, a weekend, maybe a few weeks of intense activity. But the systems harming Black & Brown people are centuries old, Designed, funded, and protected by laws, courts, and institutions. If that energy doesn't turn into organizing, policy work, building institutions, and sustained community work then the system just waits it out and returns to normal.

03

### Visibility Without Power Is a Trap

Protests bring visibility. The media shows up. Politicians tweet statements. Corporations issue solidarity messages. But visibility doesn't equal power. Without real leverage leaders get invited to panels but don't change policy. Movements get turned into brands. The system listens, says the right words but nothing changes.

## Protests Can Be Co-Opted

04

History shows this over and over. Movements start radical, with bold demands. As they gain attention, they get softened, commercialized, or reduced to awareness. Protests can become a pressure release valve. People feel they did something, The system absorbs the shock but the material reality in Black & Brown neighborhoods stays the same.

05

## Protests Don't Automatically Address Internal Community Needs

There are internal needs in black & brown communities like healing from trauma and violence, addressing colorism, patriarchy, homophobia, & anti-Blackness, plus the need for conflict resolution. A march can call out injustice, but it doesn't address the intra community systema that are needed that requires slow, patient, everyday attention.

06

## Protests Can Give Illusions of Unity

During the protests, it can feel like everyone supports the cause but sometimes people show up for the moment, not the movement. Protests can create a temporary sense of solidarity but real unity is built through shared work, shared risks, and shared long-term commitment.



## Protests Without Clear Demands Go Nowhere

07

Power responds to specifics like what law should change? What concrete policy do we want passed? When protests don't have clear demands, a plan for negotiation, and a follow-up strategy, then officials can say "We hear you" and keep doing what they're doing.

- Duron Barima Kweku Chavis

what did  
**THIS** →  
achieve?

**NOTHING.**



We stand with you.  
#BlackoutTuesday

HOW SICK DO YOU HAVE TO BE TO SIGN A BOMB?  
HOW SICK DO YOU HAVE TO BE TO THINK THAT  
THAT'S NOT WRONG?  
HOW SICK DO YOU HAVE TO BE TO WRITE A MESSAGE  
ON SOME LEAD  
WHEN YOU KNOW YOU'RE GOING TO DROP IT AND  
MAKE PEOPLE DEAD?

If you're going to bomb some-  
body then you better not gloat  
Better think about your victim  
put yourself in their boat  
You say that you're moral but  
you clearly have no heart  
Taking joy in destruction,  
tearing families apart

You've become like the crim-  
inals you claim to fight  
But killing innocent people,  
that's just not right  
And that is why I think...

**JOSEPH TAWADROS**



# EVERYTHING COUNTS



## D≡P≡CH≡MOD≡

The handshake seals the contract

From the contract, there's no turning back

The turning point of a career

In Korea being insincere

The holiday was fun-packed

The contract still intact

THE GRABBING HANDS GRAB ALL THEY CAN  
ALL FOR THEMSELVES, AFTER ALL  
THE GRABBING HANDS GRAB ALL THEY CAN  
ALL FOR THEMSELVES, AFTER ALL

IT'S A COMPETITIVE WORLD.

EVERYTHING COUNTS IN LARGE AMOUNTS

The graph on the wall

Tells the story of it all

Picture it now, see just how

The lies and deceit gained a little more power

Confidence taken in

By a suntan and a grin



# 2PAC

\*Non-black  
perspective



TUPAC IS A HOUSEHOLD NAME TODAY, BUT GROWING UP IN THE '90s THEY REPRESENTED THE "DARK SIDE OF RAP MUSIC"... THE GANGTERS, THE THUGS, OR, YOU KNOW... JUST BLACK PEOPLE TRYING TO SURVIVE IN A WORLD THAT DEMANDS THEIR OBEDIENT SUBJUGATION.

I HARBOR SOME RESENTMENT FOR THE ADULTS IN MY LIFE WHO WOULD COAX ME AWAY FROM THIS KIND OF MUSIC FOR ALL THE USUAL REASONS: IT WILL MAKE YOU VIOLENT, IT POISONS YOUR MIND, WON'T SOMEONE PLEASE THINK OF THE CHILDREN!!!

IT STANDS OUT AS PRETTY BLATANT RACISM TODAY, BUT BACK THEN IT WAS HERALDED AS SOUND LOGIC.

AS I DIVE DEEPER AND DEEPER INTO THE LIFE OF TUPAC (THEIR MUSIC, THEIR POLITICS, THEIR BELIEFS...) I AM FURTHER AND FURTHER ASTOUNDED BY THE DEPTHS OF THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF THE SYSTEM IN WHICH WE ALL OPERATE AND BY THE POETRY THAT THEY USE TO EXPLAIN IT.

THEIR LIFE WAS TOO SHORT AND THEIR MESSAGE, THOUGH **LOUD**, WAS NOT HEARD NEARLY WELL ENOUGH.

I AM LISTENING NOW.

# changes

I see no changes,

Wake up in the morning and I ask myself  
Is life worth livin'? Should I blast myself?

I'm tired of bein' poor

And, even worse, I'm black

My stomach hurts so

I'm lookin' for a purse to snatch

Cops give a damn about a negro

Pull the trigger, kill a nigga, he's a hero

"Give the crack to the kids, who the hell cares?

One less hungry mouth on the welfare"

First ship 'em dope and let 'em deal to brothers

Give 'em guns, step back,

Watch 'em kill each other

"It's time to fight back," that's what Huey said

Two shots in the dark, now Huey's dead

I got love for my brother

But we can never go nowhere

Unless we share with each other

We gotta start makin' changes

Learn to see me as a brother

Instead of two distant strangers

And that's how it's supposed to be

How can the Devil take a brother

If he's close to me?

I'd love to go back to when we played as kids

But things change, and that's the way it is



# THAT'S JUST THE WAY IT IS THINGS'LL NEVER BE THE SAME

I see no changes, all I see is racist faces  
Misplaced hate makes disgrace to races  
We under, I wonder what it takes to make this  
One better place, let's erase the wasted  
Take the evil out the people, they'll be actin' right  
'Cause both black and white are smokin' crack tonight  
And the only time we chill is when we kill each other  
It takes skill to be real, time to heal each other  
And although it seems heaven-sent  
We ain't ready to see a black president  
It ain't a secret, don't conceal the fact  
The penitentiary's packed and it's filled with blacks  
But some things will never change  
Try to show another way, but you stayin' in the dope game  
Now tell me, what's a mother to do?  
Bein' real don't appeal to the brother in you  
You gotta operate the easy way  
"I made a G today," but you made it in a sleazy way  
Sellin' crack to the kids, "I gotta get paid"  
Well hey, well that's the way it is

We gotta make  
It's time for us as a people  
Let's change the way we eat  
And let's change the way  
You see, the old way  
So it's on us to do what

# THAT'S JUST THE WAY IT IS AWW, YEAH

And still I see no changes, can't a brother get a little peace?  
It's war on the streets and the war in the Middle East  
Instead of war on poverty  
They got a war on drugs so the police can bother me  
And I ain't never did a crime I ain't have to do  
But now I'm back with the facts, givin' it back to you  
Don't let 'em jack you up, back you up  
Crack you up and pimp-smack you up  
You gotta learn to hold your own  
They get jealous when they see you with your mobile phone  
But tell the cops they can't touch this  
I don't trust this, when they try to rush, I bust this  
That's the sound of my tool, you say it ain't cool  
My mama didn't raise no fool  
And as long as I stay black, I gotta stay strapped  
And I never get to lay back  
'Cause I always got to worry 'bout the payback  
Some buck that I roughed up way back  
Comin' back after all these years  
"Rat-a-tat-tat-tat-tat," that's the way it is

a change  
to start makin' some changes  
Let's change the way we live  
we treat each other  
wasn't workin'  
we gotta do to survive

IF YOU HAVE A SONG, A THOUGHT,  
A FEELING, OR ANYTHING KIND  
YOU WANT TO SHARE, PLEASE  
DO EMAIL ME.

IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING SHITTY  
TO SAY, GO AHEAD, BUT THE  
FUTURE IS KIND AND WE'RE  
LEAVING YOU BEHIND.

DO NOT PURCHASE THIS ZINE.  
IT IS ALWAYS FREE.

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